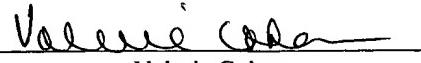




Atty Docket No. 546322000321

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Label No. EL990376137US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 7, 2004.

  
Valerie Cohen

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Michael W. GRAHAM et al.

Serial No.: 09/646,807

Filing Date: December 5, 2000

For: CONTROL OF GENE EXPRESSION

Examiner: D. Sullivan

Group Art Unit: 1636

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 17, 2003**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. BOX 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 17, 2003, Part of Paper No. 1203, for which a response was due on March 17, 2004, and for which a three month extension of time was requested with the filing of a Notice of Appeal on June 16, 2004. This Request for Continued Examination is filed with a request for a four month extension of time to extend the time for response to December 16, 2004. As such, the filing of this Request for Continued Examination is timely. Please consider entering the following amendments and remarks.

12/10/2004 MAHMED1 00000088 031952 09646807

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